

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 00590 090657Z

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SUBJECT: U.S.- PRC CULTURAL EXCHANGES

REF: STATE 025972

1. ON APRIL 9 FOREIGN MINISTRY DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF U.S. AFFAIRS CH'ENG CH'I-HUNG CALLED IN ANDERSON AND PASCOE TO GIVE PRC REPLY ON WU SHU AND AGRICULTURAL STUDY DELEGATIONS TO THE U.S. AND U.S. PLANT RESEARCH GROUP TO THE PRC.

2. WU SHU DELEGATION - THE CHINESE NOW PLAN TO SEND A WU SHU DELEGATION OF SOMETHING OVER FORTY PEOPLE TO THE U.S. IN MID-JUNE FOR THREE TO FOUR WEEKS. THE GROUP, WHICH WILL BE UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE ALL-CHINA SPORTS FEDERATION, WILL GIVE THREE PERFORMANCES PER WEEK WITH EACH PERFORMANCE LASTING EIGHTY TO NINETY MINUTES. EVENING SHOWS ARE PREFERRED. THE GROUP CAN PERFORM IN EITHER A THEATER OR GYMNASIUM BUT THE THEATER STAGE MUST BE MINIMUM OF SIXTEEN METERS WIDE AND TWELVE METERS DEEP. THEY WOULD PREFER THAT THE GYMNASIUMS BE MEDIUM-SIZED WITH SEATING CAPACITY OF AROUND 5,000 PEOPLE. THE GROUP WILL ALSO REQUIRE A CARPET ON THE FLOOR (12 METERS X 16 METERS) THREE CENTIMETERS THICK AND PREFERABLY GREEN OR LIGHT-COLORED TO BLEND IN WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 PEKING 00590 090657Z

THEIR COSTUMES. THEY WILL ALSO NEED TWO ADDITIONAL CARPETS

OF APPROXIMATELY THE SAME SIZE FOR PRACTICE SESSIONS. THE GROUP WILL PROVIDE ITS OWN TAPED MUSIC, BUT THE LOUD SPEAKER SYSTEM WOULD BE PROVIDED BY OUR SIDE. THE EQUIPMENT WILL BE 220V AND THE QUESTION OF 50 OR 60 CYCLE CURRENT SHOULD BE COVERED IN LATER DETAILED DISCUSSIONS. THE CHINESE SAID THEY PREFER TO REFER TO THE GROUP AS A "WU SHU" RATHER THAN "MARTIAL ARTS" DELEGATION. THEY EMPHASIZED THAT THEY WERE OFFERING US THEIR TENTATIVE PLANNING WHICH IF ACCEPTABLE TO THE U.S. SIDE COULD THEN BE FOLLOWED UP BY DETAILED DISCUSSIONS.

3. AGRICULTURAL STUDY DELEGATION - CH'ENG SAID THAT THE AGRICULTURAL STUDY DELEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE SPONSORED BY THE CHINESE SOCIETY OF AGRONOMY AND IS TENTATIVELY SET TO GO TO THE U.S. IN AUGUST. THE GROUP, WHICH WOULD CONSIST OF ABOUT 8 PEOPLE, IS INTERESTED IN AGRICULTURAL SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN THE U.S. THEY WILL BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN STUDYING RESEARCH AND PRODUCTION METHODS OF WHEAT, CORN, SOYBEANS, AND COTTON. DETAILS ON THIS DELEGATION WILL BE SENT DIRECTLY TO THE COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATIONS BY THE CHINESE SPONSORING ORGANIZATION.

4. U.S. PLANT RESEARCH DELEGATION - CH'ENG SAID THAT ANNE KEATLEY'S CABLE OF MARCH 13 TO CHOU PEI-YUAN HAD SUGGESTED THE DATES OF AUGUST 27 TO SEPTEMBER 23 FOR THE VISIT OF THE U.S. PLANT RESEARCH DELEGATION TO CHINA. THE CHINESE SOCIETY OF AGRONOMY AGREES TO THIS TIMING BUT WOULD LIKE TO HAVE FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE INTERESTS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THIS DELEGATION. THEY PARTICULARLY WANT TO KNOW IF THE GROUP IS PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN PLANT RESEARCH ALONE OR IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION.

5. WE ASSURED CH'ENG THAT WE WOULD PASS ON THIS INFORMATION TO THE DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY AND THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTACT THE COMMITTEES CONCERNED.
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